Listing of Claims:

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A damping arrangement for guide vanes, in particular for guide vanes of a gas turbine or an aircraft engine, wherein radially external ends of the guide vanes of a guide vane grid or a guide vane ring are mounted to a housing, wherein radially internal ends of the guide vanes form an inner shroud, wherein at least one seal bearing is mounted to the inner shroud of the guide vanes, and wherein at least one spring element is installed between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing, and wherein the, or each, spring element is configured as a leaf spring, wherein the leaf spring is a flat metal sheet, and wherein the flat metal sheet engages with the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing to deform the leaf spring.

13. (Currently Amended) The damping arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring is installed in a hollow space ~~having a low radial height and~~ defined between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing.

14. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring is clamped between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing.

15. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 14, wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring is clamped between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing such that a central abutment section of the leaf spring abuts against the, or each, seal bearing, and a first and a second lateral abutment section of the leaf spring abut against the inner shroud of the guide vanes.

16. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 14, wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring is clamped between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing such that a central abutment section of the leaf spring abuts against the inner shroud

of the guide vanes, and a first and a second lateral abutment section of the leaf spring abut against the, or each, seal bearing.

17. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing, at least one securing element is installed in addition to the, or each, spring element.

18. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 17, wherein the, or each, securing element extends in a circumferential direction laterally next to the, or each, spring element that is configured as a leaf spring.

19. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 18, wherein the, or each, securing element is configured as a securing wire.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The damping arrangement according to Claim 12,~~ A damping arrangement for guide vanes, wherein radially external ends of the guide vanes of a guide vane grid or a guide vane ring are mounted to a housing, wherein radially internal ends of the guide vanes form an inner shroud, wherein at least one seal bearing is mounted to the inner shroud of the guide vanes, wherein at least one spring element is installed between the inner shroud of the guide vanes and the, or each, seal bearing, wherein the, or each, spring element is configured as a leaf spring, and wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring has at least one angled section which acts as a securing tab for a securing element.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein the, or each, spring element configured as a leaf spring comprises a plurality of leaf spring sections separated from each other by slits, wherein each inner shroud of each guide vane is associated, respectively, with a one of the leaf spring sections.

23. (Currently Amended) A damping arrangement for a guide vane of a gas turbine engine, comprising:

a guide vane, wherein a radially internal end of the guide vane forms an inner shroud;

a seal bearing mounted to the inner shroud of the guide vane; and

a spring element disposed between the inner shroud and the seal bearing, wherein the spring element is a leaf spring, wherein the leaf spring is a flat metal sheet, and wherein the flat metal sheet engages with the inner shroud and the seal bearing to deform the leaf spring.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The damping arrangement according to Claim ~~24~~ 23, wherein a central abutment section of the deformed leaf spring engages with the seal bearing and extends in a radially outer direction and wherein a first and a second lateral abutment section of the deformed leaf spring engage with the inner shroud and extend in a radially inner direction.

26. (Currently Amended) The damping arrangement according to Claim ~~24~~ 23, wherein a central abutment section of the deformed leaf spring engages with the inner shroud and extends in a radially inner direction and wherein a first and a second lateral abutment section of the deformed leaf spring engage with the seal bearing and extend in a radially outer direction.

27. (Currently Amended) A damping arrangement for a guide vane ring of a gas turbine engine, comprising:

a guide vane ring including a first and a second guide vane, wherein a radially internal end of each of the first and second guide vanes forms an inner shroud;

a seal bearing mounted to the inner shrouds of the first and second guide vanes; and

a spring element disposed between the inner shrouds and the seal bearing, wherein the spring element is a leaf spring, wherein the leaf spring is a flat

metal sheet, and wherein the flat metal sheet engages with the inner shrouds and the seal bearing to deform the leaf spring.

28. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 27, wherein the leaf spring includes a first section and a second section, wherein the first section and the second section define a slit between the first and second sections.

29. (Previously Presented) The damping arrangement according to Claim 28, wherein the first section of the leaf spring is disposed between the inner shroud of the first guide vane and the seal bearing and wherein the second section of the leaf spring is disposed between the inner shroud of the second guide vane and the seal bearing.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~The damping arrangement according to Claim 28,~~ A damping arrangement for a guide vane ring of a gas turbine engine, comprising:

a guide vane ring including a first and a second guide vane, wherein a radially internal end of each of the first and second guide vanes forms an inner shroud;

a seal bearing mounted to the inner shrouds of the first and second guide vanes; and

a spring element disposed between the inner shrouds and the seal bearing, wherein the spring element is a leaf spring;

wherein the leaf spring includes a first section and a second section, wherein the first section and the second section define a slit between the first and second sections;

and wherein the slit extends from a first side and a second side of the leaf spring and wherein the slit does not extend continuously along a width of the leaf spring between the first and second sides of the leaf spring.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~The damping arrangement according to Claim 27, further comprising~~ A damping arrangement for a guide vane ring of a gas turbine engine, comprising:

a guide vane ring including a first and a second guide vane, wherein a radially internal end of each of the first and second guide vanes forms an inner shroud;

a seal bearing mounted to the inner shrouds of the first and second guide vanes;

a spring element disposed between the inner shrouds and the seal bearing, wherein the spring element is a leaf spring; and

a securing element disposed between the inner shrouds and the seal bearing and wherein the leaf spring includes a radially extending tab on a circumferential end of the leaf spring and further wherein the securing element engages with the tab.